Bruce D. Greenstein SECRETARY

Department of Health and Hospitals Center for Preventive Health

MEMORANDUM

June 29, 2012

To:

WIC Vendors

From:

Tricia Guidroz, MA

LA WIC Vendor Manager

Re:

WIC Infant Formula Contract

Effective September 30, 2012, the current WIC infant formula contract with Mead Johnson will expire. An Invitation to Bid (ITB) has been prepared and published. The WIC program must prepare for the possibility that the current contractor will change.

During the month of July 2012, clinic staff will continue to issue food instruments with valid months of July, August and September, 2012 for the current standard contract infant formulas. The current standard infant formulas are: Enfamil Premium Infant w/iron, Enfamil ProSobee, Enfamil Gentlease, Enfamil AR, Enfamil Next Step and Enfamil Next Step Soy.

Currently, WIC Vendors are only required to stock Enfamil Premium Infant w/iron (13 oz conc), Enfamil ProSobee (13 oz conc), and Enfamil Gentlease (12.4 oz pwdr).

WIC food instruments for standard contract infant formulas with valid months of October 2012 and beyond **will not** be issued until the State Agency learns who will be the next contractor.

Given this information, we are suggesting that until the winning bidder is announced, Vendors pay close attention to infant formula stock levels. Hopefully, this will help you in not having an excess of the Mead Johnson infant formulas in stock in the event that another infant formula company is the winning bidder.

The winning bidder will be announced as soon as the WIC Program is notified in order that your ordering process will have as little interruption as possible.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact us at (504) 568-8229.